



January 31st, 2018

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: 2018 Midwest Urban Design Charrette

Kent State University's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC), the home of the KSU College of Architecture and Environmental Design's graduate program in urban design and architecture, issues a CALL FOR PROPOSALS to communities throughout the Great Lakes region in need of urban design assistance.

The CUDC and our three academic partners – Lawrence Technological University's College of Architecture and Design in Detroit, MI; the State University of New York at Buffalo in Buffalo, NY; and Ball State University's Urban Design Center in Indianapolis, IN – will bring graduate students in urban design, architecture, and landscape architecture to a selected community for a 3-4 day intensive design workshop (or charrette). The Midwest Urban Design Charrette, has been conducted for seven consecutive years, most recently traveling to Detroit, MI in 2017 and Akron, OH in 2016.

The CUDC is looking for a community partner from a city, suburb, town, or neighborhood in western New York; northwestern Pennsylvania; northern Ohio; northern Indiana; or the lower peninsula of Michigan, facing a unique urban design or planning challenge and in need of fresh ideas and perspectives.

This year, the Midwest Urban Design Charrette is specifically seeking communities with issues related to one or more of the following areas of interest:

- resilience to the impacts of climate change;
- environmental justice;
- patterns of migration into or out of a community, either domestically or internationally; and
- immigrant communities.

Each theme encompasses a broad range of possible topics at varying scales. Potential applicants could include, among many other possibilities, a neighborhood with a history of environmentally hazardous conditions, a city with a growing immigrant population, or a community facing a challenge brought on by changing climatic conditions. Proposals that engage more than one of these topics and the intersection of their impacts—i.e. migration induced by inequitable environmental conditions, or the compounded impacts of climate change and industrial environmental degradation on a community—will be of particular interest.

The ideal community partner will be a municipality or other vested stakeholder with a relationship with more or more of the issues outlined above, and with the ability to convene local stakeholders during the charrette weekend and potentially realize some of the final design recommendations following the charrette. The partner will also be responsible for basic food and lodging for ~40 students + staff over the 3-4 day Charrette period. In exchange, the CUDC, LTU, UB, & BSU team will bring staff, supplies, and expertise and produce a report or other deliverable for the partner community.

The Midwest Urban Design Charrette is a rewarding experience for students, who get an opportunity to face real-life design challenges and propose solutions, and for cities, who receive a wide range of design and planning ideas in a short and intense period of time. We invite proposals from communities that would benefit from this opportunity.

SUBMISSION:

If you'd like your community to be considered for this year's charrette, please send a brief proposal (no more than three pages) including:

- Overview of your city, town, or neighborhood;
- Interest of your community in issues of Migration, Climate Resilience, and/or Environmental Justice, outlined above;
- Additional design challenges, opportunities, and issues you'd like the charrette team to address;
- Description of charrette site or neighborhood
- Map of site, or written description of site boundaries.

TIMELINE:

The 2018 Charrette will be held in late September or early October of 2018; the specific dates will be coordinated with the host community. Please submit your proposal to the CUDC by **April 2, 2018** in order for us to review and select no later than April 16, 2018. This will allow time to plan curriculum and coordinate logistics.

Please submit proposals electronically to cudc@kent.edu with "2018 Charrette" in the subject line.

DELIVERABLES:

The CUDC will work with the community partner to determine the deliverables of this work, which may include illustrative plans, analytical drawings, diagrams, renderings, design guidelines, and other materials. These materials will be presented to the community partner in draft format at the end of the Charrette, and as a final product by December 1, 2018. Examples of previous charrette reports can be found here: <https://www.scribd.com/collections/13114661/Charrette-Reports>

FOR MORE ON THE CUDC:

<http://cudc.kent.edu/>